

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims:

Claims 1-17 were pending in the application prior to this response. No claims have been amended. No new matter has been introduced in this response.

II. Response to Election/Restriction:

In the Office Action dated May 1, 2007, the Examiner issued a Restriction Requirement requiring Applicant to elect a species from one of the following groups:

- I. First Species, figures 1 and 2;
- II. Second Species, figure 3;
- III. Third Species, figure 4;
- IV. Fourth Species, figure 5; and
- V. Fifth Species, figure 6.

In response, Applicants provisionally elect to pursue prosecution of Species I, which includes Figures 1 and 2. Applicants have reviewed the pending claims 1-17, and have further determined that claims 1-3 and 11-17 are readable on Species I.

This election is made with traverse. Despite the identification of five groups in the Election/Restriction Requirement, the Examiner has not established that a completely separate field of search would be required for each of these species. More specifically, the Examiner has not identified that it would be necessary to search for one of the groups in an area where no pertinent prior art corresponding to the other group exists. As such, the Examiner has not satisfied at least the burden criteria for restriction as set forth in section 803 of the MPEP.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that: (1) all groups of the above groups are properly presented in the same application; (2) undue diverse searching should not be required; and (3) all claims should be examined together. For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the restriction/election requirement should be withdrawn and an action on the merits of all the claims is respectfully solicited.

Applicants reserve the right to file divisional application(s) based on the non-elected species.

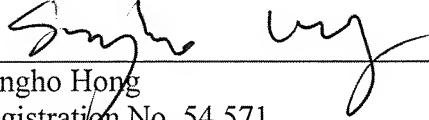
AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this response to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-5155.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-5155.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: June 29, 2007

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